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To re-order this document, request part number DSS-10579-00

FCC Notice

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class A digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference when the equipment is operated in a commercial environment. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instruction manual, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. Operation of this equipment in a residential area is likely to cause harmful interference in which case the user will be required to correct the interference at his own expense.

Canadian Department of Communications Compliance Statement

This equipment does not exceed Class A limits per radio noise emissions for digital apparatus set out in the Radio Interference Regulations of the Canadian Department of Communications. Operation in a residential area may cause unacceptable interference to radio and TV reception requiring the owner or operator to take whatever steps are necessary to correct the interference.

Avis de Conformité aux Normes du Ministère des Communications du Canada

Cet équipement ne dépasse pas les limites de Classe A d'émission de bruits radioélectriques pour les appareils numériques tels que prescrites par le Règlement sur le brouillage radioélectrique établi par le ministère des Communications du Canada. L'exploitation faite en milieu résidentiel peut entraîner le brouillage des réceptions radio et télé, ce qui obligerait le propriétaire ou l'opérateur à prendre les dispositions nécessaires pour en éliminer les causes.

Battery Warning

CAUTION: Danger of explosion if battery is incorrectly replaced. Replace only with the same or equivalent type recommended by the manufacturer. Discard used batteries according to the manufacturer's instructions.

ATTENTION: Il y a danger d'explosion s'il y a un remplacement incorrect de la batterie. Remplacer uniquement avec une batterie du même type ou d'un type recommandé par le constructeur. Mettre au rebut les batteries usagées conformément aux instructions du fabricant.

For AM-6000 systems, replace batteries with Panasonic or Ray-O-Vac BR1225 only. Use of another battery may present a risk of fire or explosion. Replacement batteries may be ordered from your authorized Alpha Micro reseller.

Electrical Warning

This equipment contains components that can be damaged by static electricity. Follow all electronic discharge precautions when handling the equipment. For example, touch the metal back panel of the CPU or peripheral chassis to dissipate any electrical charge before touching the circuit boards or equipment within the chassis. After turning off power, before you open your computer chassis, unplug the cord from the electrical outlet to guard against electrical shock.

SOFTWARE SECURITY DEVICE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: _____

The Alpha Micro Software Security Device (SSD) is a customized integrated circuit that personalizes the computer, providing identity verification for it. Certain Alpha Micro and non-Alpha Micro software may require that your computer contain an SSD in order to run software that has been customized to run only on your computer.

Please enter the identification of your SSD above. The SSD identification number should be on your computer ID label under "SSD Serial No." (Another way of finding the number is to look at the SSD itself. The SSD is located in an integrated circuit location on the CPU board; its identification number is printed on the SSD itself.) Software vendors may ask you for the SSD number if they are customizing software to run only on your computer.

This document may contain references to products covered under the following U.S. Patent Number(s): 4,530,048

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Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION.....	1
ACCESSING YOUR COMPUTER (DESKSIDE CHASSIS VERSION)	1
ACCESSING YOUR COMPUTER (AM-990 AND AM-990 JUMBO CHASSIS)	2
ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT HANDLING PRECAUTIONS	3
HARDWARE CONFIGURABLE OPTIONS	4
Printed Circuit Board Configuration.....	4
Remote Reset Capability	7
Replacing the Time and Date Battery	7
SSD and PROM Chip Removal	8
UPGRADING AM-6000 ON-BOARD MEMORY	9
Removing Memory SIMMs.....	9
Installing the External Cache SIMM.....	10
Installing Memory SIMMs	11
Setting Memory Jumpers.....	12
PERIPHERAL MOUNTING (DESKSIDE CHASSIS VERSIONS)	14
Side Mounting Bracket Removal.....	16
X-Bus Cable Routing.....	17
PERIPHERAL MOUNTING (AM-990 AND JUMBO CHASSIS VERSIONS).....	18
Plastic Mounting Rails	19
X-Bus Cable Routing.....	20
ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION	20

Table of Figures

Figure 1: Deskside Chassis Top Cover Screws	1
Figure 2: Deskside Chassis Top Cover Removal	2
Figure 3: AM-990 Chassis Removal.....	3
Figure 4: Static Protection Wrist Strap	4
Figure 5: AM-319-20 Board Configuration	5
Figure 6: AM-176 Board Configuration.....	6
Figure 7: AM-319-20 Backup Battery Removal.....	8
Figure 8: SSD Chip Removal Tools	9
Figure 9: AM-176 SIMM Module Installation	10
Figure 10: JP4 Memory Jumpers	12
Figure 11: Deskside Chassis Peripheral Mounting Positions.....	14
Figure 12: Deskside Chassis Rear Panel Screw Locations.....	15
Figure 13: Deskside Chassis - AM-319-20 Mounting Bracket Removal.....	16
Figure 14: AM-990 Peripheral Mounting Area	18
Figure 15: AM-990 Peripheral Mounting Rail	19
Figure 16: AM-990 Attaching Mounting Rails to Peripheral.....	19

INTRODUCTION



This document contains instructions which are intended only for authorized service personnel. AM-6000 computers contain a high-output power supply, which produces current levels high enough to make it unsafe for unauthorized persons to perform work inside the chassis.

This document describes the AM-6000 computer package in both the desktide and the AM-990 chassis. It covers the following procedures:

- Removing your computer's cover.
- Electronic equipment handling precautions.
- Printed circuit board configuration options.
- Installing memory.
- Peripheral installation.

ACCESSING YOUR COMPUTER (DEKSIDIE CHASSIS VERSION)

When adding additional equipment or servicing your computer, you will need to remove your computer's top cover. The top cover is held in place with four Phillips-head screws on the computer's rear panel. To remove the top cover, remove all four screws from the locations indicated in Figure 1. Once the screws have been removed, you can slide back and remove the top cover, as shown in Figure 2.

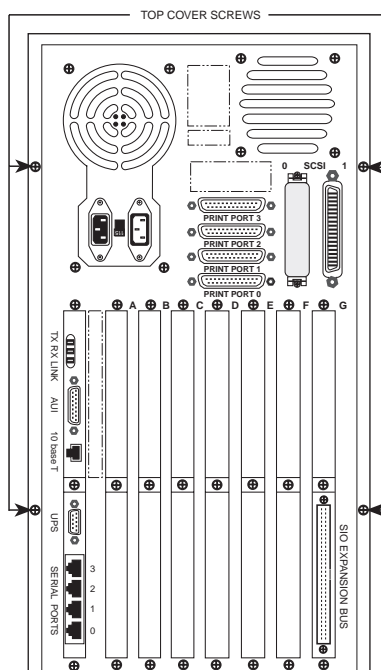


Figure 1: Desktide Chassis Top Cover Screws

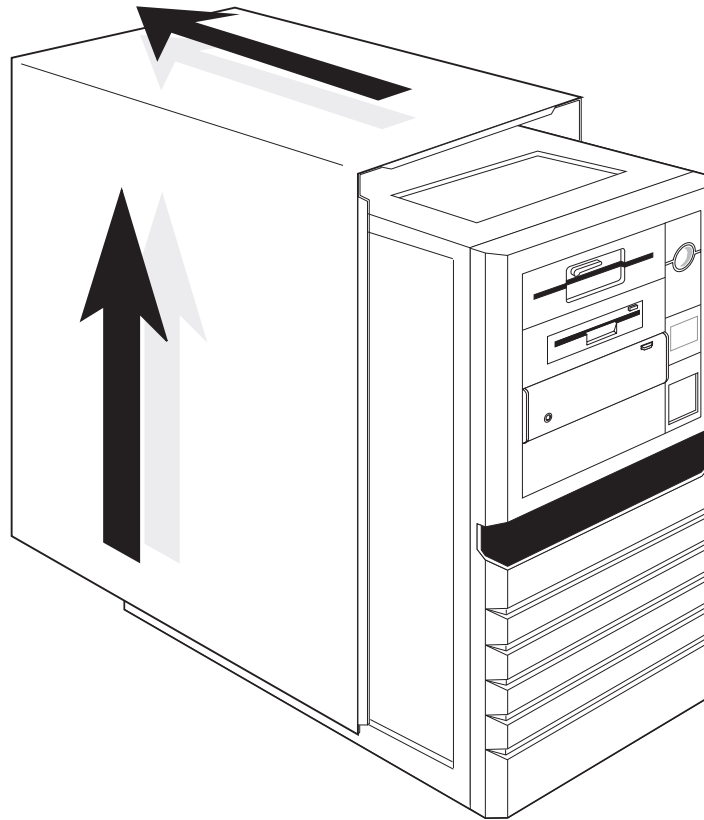


Figure 2: Deskside Chassis Top Cover Removal

ACCESSING YOUR COMPUTER (AM-990 AND AM-990 JUMBO CHASSIS)

When adding additional equipment or servicing your computer, you will have to gain access to the components inside the computer. To do so, you will need to remove the computer's top cover and side panel.

To remove the top cover:

1. Unlock the front door and swing it open.
2. Behind the front door, remove the two screws that connect the top cover to the chassis
3. Use the palm of your hand to firmly strike the rear corners of the top cover to slide it forward, in order to release the locking tabs that hold it in place. Refer to Figure 3.

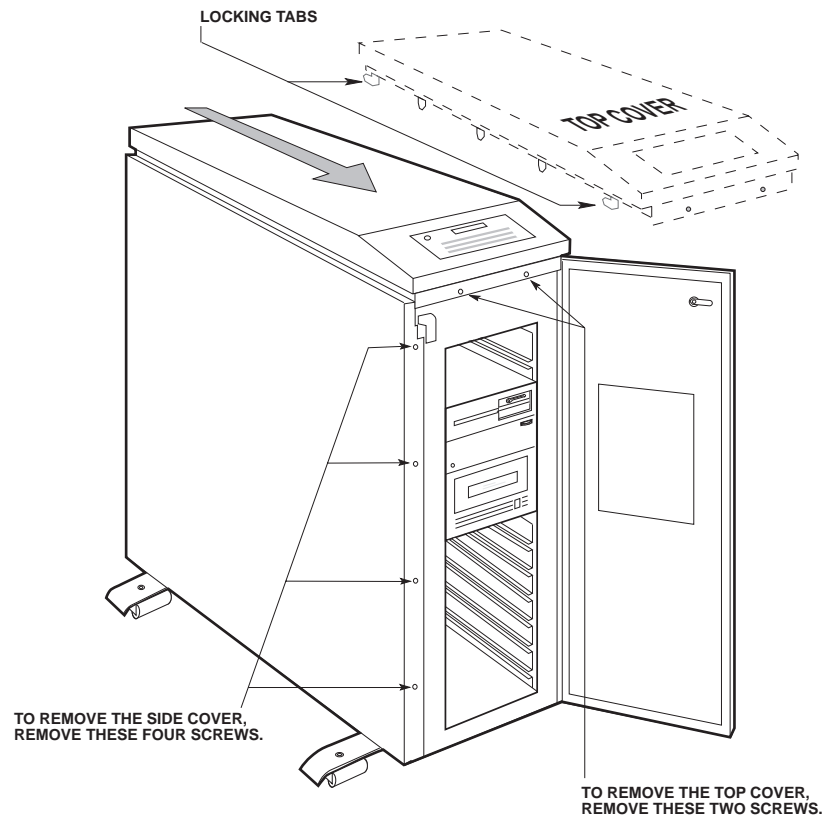


Figure 3: AM-990 Chassis Removal

4. Once the top cover slides forward, pull straight up to remove it.

To remove the side panel:

1. Remove the four screws that secure the left side panel to the chassis.
2. Using the palm of your hand, firmly strike the rear edge of the side panel.
3. Once the panel slides forward, it can be removed by lifting straight up.

ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT HANDLING PRECAUTIONS

With the AC power cord unplugged and the top cover removed, the components inside your computer are vulnerable to damage caused by static discharge. Your body and clothing can store an electrical charge that can damage or destroy unprotected electronic components. Before handling any computer hardware, make sure your work area is properly protected against static discharge. There are a number of commercially available static protection devices, like the wrist strap shown in Figure 4, designed specifically to protect your equipment from harmful static discharge.

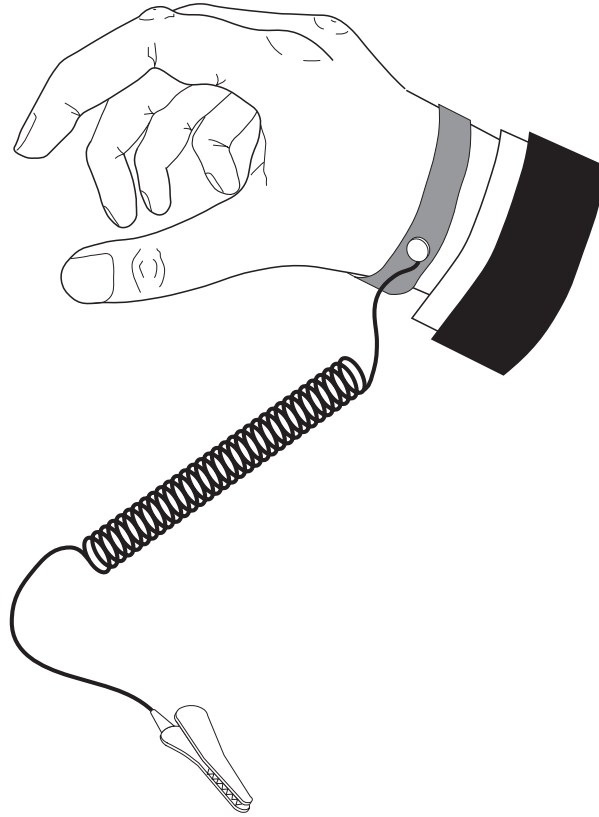


Figure 4: Static Protection Wrist Strap

HARDWARE CONFIGURABLE OPTIONS

The following sections summarize the configuration options available to let you tailor your hardware to your needs. Most of these options require access to the main circuit boards inside the computer, and should be performed only by qualified technical personnel. Contact your VAR if you need assistance.

Printed Circuit Board Configuration

The next few sections contain configuration information for the following boards:

AM-319-20

The AM-319-20 system board is used with the AM-176 board in the AM-6000. The AM-319-20 board supports all the I/O ports used to communicate with printers, terminals, etc. The board also contains your computer's SSD chip and other I/O related circuitry.

AM-176

The AM-176 board contains a 68060 CPU chip, one 50-pin SCSI connector and one 68-pin Wide SCSI connector, one boot PROM, a high-performance Ethernet interface, and all of your computer's on-board memory.

AM-176 Board Configuration

Your AM-176 board has been factory tested and shipped with its configuration jumpers set in their standard default positions. Only two areas on the board may require you to change jumper settings:

- Memory size select (JP4)
- Enabling or disabling the supply of SCSI bus termination voltage (JP3)—default set at enabled.

The AM-176 board is shown in Figure 6 with all of its jumpers in their default positions. (The illustration does not show all components on the board.)

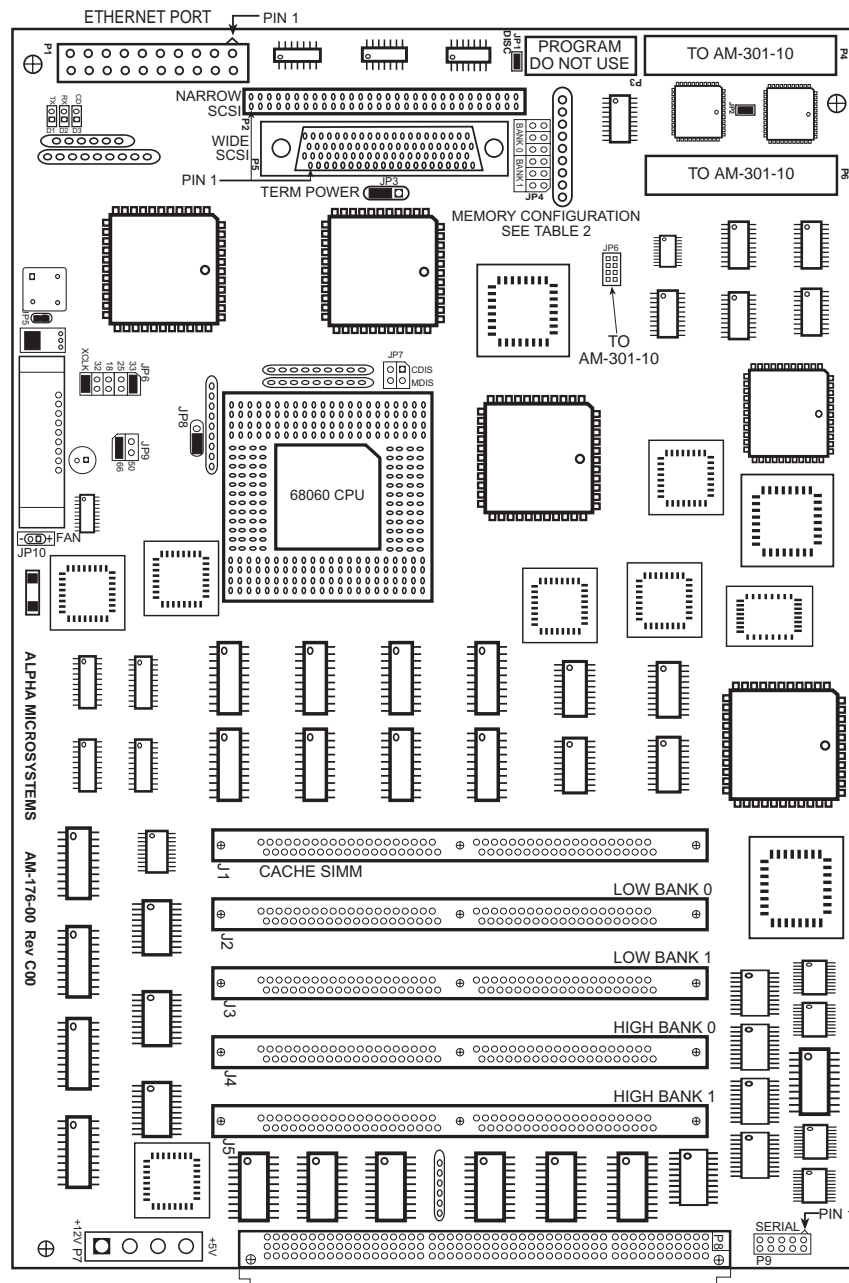


Figure 6: AM-176 Board Configuration

Remote Reset Capability

The AM-319-20 board has an option to enable the computer's remote hardware reset. To enable remote reset, you must do two things:

1. Install the JP7 jumper, which is shown in the AM-319-20 illustration (Figure 5). The factory default is not installed.
2. Connect a push-button switch between pin-1 and pin-7 (signal ground) at the terminal end of the terminal cable attached to serial port 0 on the AM-319-20 board.

Once you've enabled remote reset, you can reset the computer by activating the push-button switch.

Replacing the Time and Date Battery



When replacing the backup batteries, always be sure to power-down the system first! DO NOT replace the batteries with the power on! As always when opening your computer chassis, take proper precautions against electrostatic discharge, which can seriously damage system components.

The AM-319-20 board uses two 3-volt lithium batteries (BR-1225) to provide power to its time/date circuit. The batteries are no bigger than a dime (1.2 cm), and are secured side-by-side in a plastic holder at location U80, as shown in Figure 5.

The batteries need to be replaced when the status panel displays B1 or B0. You must replace **both** batteries at the same time. For battery replacement, please follow these steps:



Before turning off your computer, make a note of the current CMOS settings. Removing the batteries will erase all CMOS data.

1. Insert a knife with a thin blade (such as a small scribe or Xacto™ knife) from the top, down through the square hole between the right edge of the battery and the plastic holder's top piece. (The right side is the side toward the resistor pack at RN12.)
2. Gently pry the right side of the battery so it slides to the left and pushes against the left side spring contacts.
3. As you slide the battery to the left and it clears the plastic top hole, pry the right edge of the battery upward and out through the hole in the top. The battery will typically "pop" up and out.

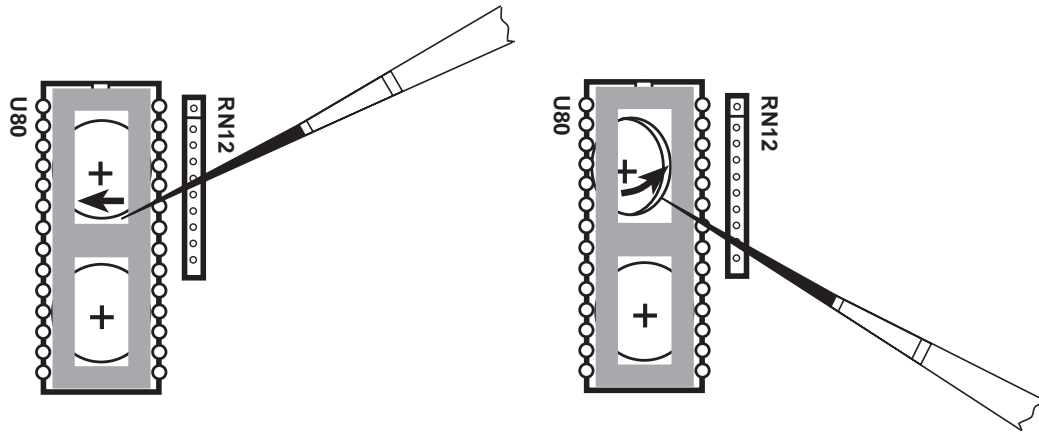


Figure 7: AM-319-20 Backup Battery Removal

4. Inspect the battery contacts and be sure they are clean before installing the new batteries. Use alcohol and a cotton swab to clean them, if necessary.
5. To install a new battery, insert the edge of the battery down through the square hole and under the left side of the plastic top. Be sure to install the new batteries with the (+) positive side up.
6. Use your finger to slide the battery to the left and down, until the right edge of the battery slips under the right side of the plastic top. Release the battery and it should spring to the right, securing itself under the holder's top piece.

Restoring Your CMOS Settings

Besides the time and date, the AM-319-20's batteries also maintain the boot routine data stored in its on-board CMOS chip. Therefore, when you remove and replace the batteries, your CMOS settings will be lost. After you install the new batteries and turn system power on, you need to access the CMOS Configuration menu and restore your settings. Refer to the *AM-6000 Owner's Manual* for detailed instructions.

If you do not use the CMOS configuration menu to restore your settings, the system will drop into a standard default boot routine: it will look first for a warm-boot streamer tape on SCSI device ID 3, then for AMOS32.MON and AMOS32.INI on SCSI disk drive 0.

Once the system is up and running, log to OPR: and enter the current time and date. Reboot the system to initialize the system up time.

SSD and PROM Chip Removal

The type of socket used for the boot PROM and SSD chips in your AM-6000 requires a special tool for chip removal. If you ever need to remove and replace either of these chips, be sure to use the correct tool, as shown in Figure 8.

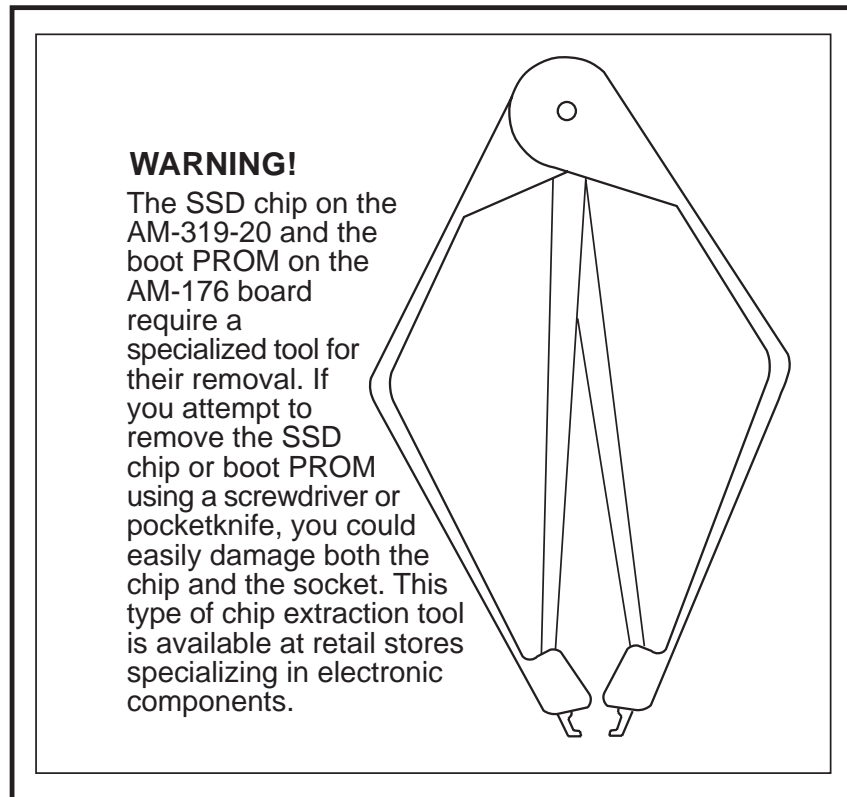


Figure 8: SSD Chip Removal Tools

UPGRADING AM-6000 ON-BOARD MEMORY

The AM-176 has four on-board SIMM (single inline memory module) expansion slots, which support 60ns DRAMs. It also has one on-board cache SIMM. Should you want to replace or upgrade any of these SIMMs, first remove the existing SIMMs, then install new ones, following the procedures below.



If you change the amount of memory in your AM-6000, you must also reset the JP4 jumpers (memory size select) according to the settings later in this chapter.

Removing Memory SIMMs

To remove a SIMM from its connector:

1. Power down the computer
2. Press out on the retainer clips and gently tilt the top of the SIMM module, so it is free of the retainer clips.
3. Lift the SIMM out of the connector

Installing the External Cache SIMM



The external cache SIMM must only be installed in the J1 slot, labeled CACHE SIMM. Never install memory expansion SIMMs in J1, or the cache SIMM at any other location.

To install the 64KB external cache SIMM (PDB-00701-00) on the AM-176 board:

1. Align pin-1 on the external cache SIMM module with pin-1 on connector at J1. Pin-1 on the SIMM module is on the notched end of the module (see Figure 9 below).
2. Insert the cache SIMM module into the J1 connector at a slight angle.
3. Rotate into the upright position.

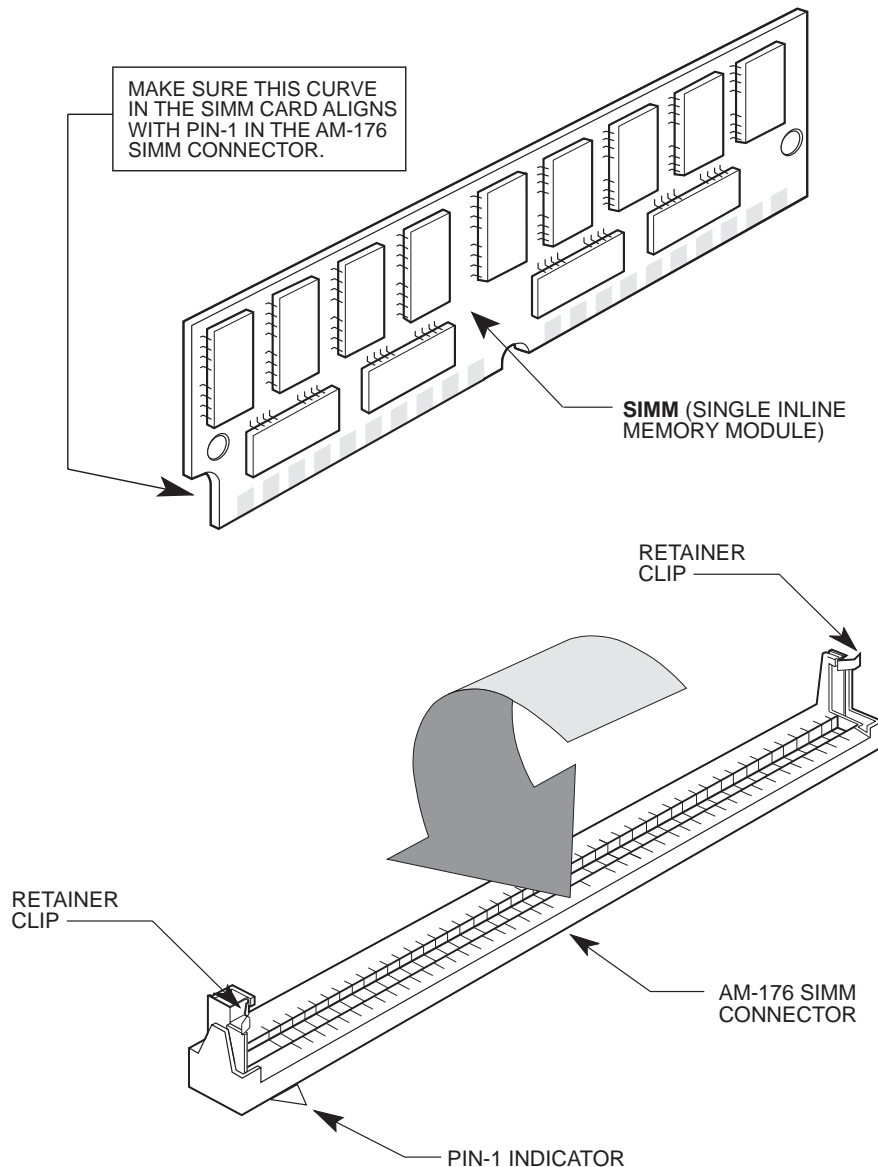


Figure 9: AM-176 SIMM Module Installation

The cache SIMM will engage the retainer clips and click into position, locking in place. When properly installed, the components on the cache SIMM module will be facing in toward the other memory SIMMs.

Installing Memory SIMMs

The AM-6000 supports a minimum of 8MB and a maximum of 512MB of main memory. Memory is implemented as paired SIMM modules (of equal capacity) of 4MB, 8MB, 16MB, 32MB, 64MB, or 128MB each. Use 60ns SIMMs only; **70ns SIMMs will not work**. The following table shows the allowable memory SIMM configurations (above 256MB, only some configurations are shown—others are possible):



128MB memory SIMMs are supported only if your AM-176 board is revision B06 or C04 or later.

For this amount of memory...	Install these memory SIMMs...					
	4MB	8MB	16MB	32MB	64MB	128MB
8MB	2	--	--	--	--	--
16MB	4	--	--	--	--	--
16MB	--	2	--	--	--	--
24MB	2	2	--	--	--	--
32MB	--	4	--	--	--	--
32MB	--	--	2	--	--	--
40MB	2	--	2	--	--	--
48MB	--	2	2	--	--	--
64MB	--	--	4	--	--	--
64MB	--	--	--	2	--	--
72MB	2	--	--	2	--	--
80MB	--	2	--	2	--	--
96MB	--	--	2	2	--	--
128MB	--	--	--	4	--	--
128MB	--	--	--	--	2	--
136MB	2	--	--	--	2	--
144MB	--	2	--	--	2	--
160MB	--	--	2	--	2	--
192MB	--	--	--	2	2	--
256MB	--	--	--	--	4	--
256MB	--	--	--	--	--	2
320MB	--	--	--	2	--	2
384MB	--	--	--	--	2	2
512MB	--	--	--	--	--	4

Table 1: AM-6000 Memory Configuration

To install memory expansion SIMMs on the AM-176 board, use this procedure:

1. Memory SIMMs must be installed in pairs of equal capacity.
2. Always install the SIMMs of largest capacity first.
3. Always install the first pair of SIMM modules at Bank0. Use Bank1 for a second pair of SIMM modules.
4. Insert the first SIMM in connector J2. Align pin-1 at the notched end of the SIMM module with pin-1 on the connector, as shown in Figure 9.
5. Insert the SIMM module into the connector at a slight angle.
6. Rotate into the upright position.

The SIMM will engage the retainer clips and click into position, locking the SIMM in place.

7. Repeat steps 4 through 6 for the second SIMM, at connector J4. If you are using a second pair of SIMMs, insert them into J3 and J5 using the same procedure.

Setting Memory Jumpers

After installing the SIMMs, set the jumpers at location JP4 on the AM-176 board according to the table below. As you turn on the computer, AMOS will automatically make the memory available. See Figure 6 for the location of the JP4 jumpers.

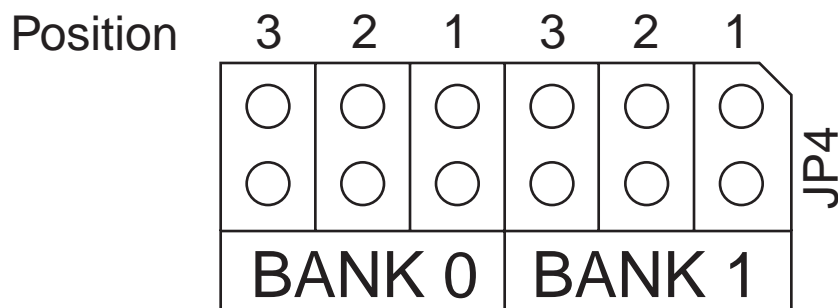


Figure 10: JP4 Memory Jumpers

<i>Memory Module Size Combinations:</i>	<i>Total Memory</i>	<i>Bank0 Settings Position:</i>			<i>Bank1 Settings Position:</i>		
		<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>
2 x 4MB	8MB	X	X	X	O	O	O
4 x 4MB	16MB	X	X	X	X	X	X
2 x 8 MB	16 MB	X	X	O	O	O	O
2 x 8MB + 2 x 4MB	24MB	X	X	O	X	X	X
4 x 8MB	32MB	X	X	O	X	X	O
2 x 16MB	32MB	X	O	X	O	O	O
2 x 16MB + 2 x 4MB	40MB	X	O	X	X	X	X
2 x 16MB + 2 x 8MB	48MB	X	O	X	X	X	O
4 x 16MB	64MB	X	O	X	X	O	X
2 x 32MB	64MB	X	O	O	O	O	O
2 x 32MB + 2 x 4MB	72MB	X	O	O	X	X	X
2 x 32MB + 2 x 8MB	80MB	X	O	O	X	X	O
2 x 32MB + 2 x 16MB	96MB	X	O	O	X	O	X
4 x 32MB	128MB	X	O	O	X	O	O
2 x 64MB	128MB	O	X	X	O	O	O
2 x 64MB + 2 x 4MB	136MB	O	X	X	X	X	X
2 x 64MB + 2 x 8MB	144MB	O	X	X	X	X	O
2 x 64MB + 2 x 16MB	160MB	O	X	X	X	O	X
2 x 64MB + 2 x 32MB	192MB	O	X	X	X	O	O
4 x 64MB	256MB	O	X	X	O	X	X
2 x 128MB	256MB	O	X	O	O	O	O
2 x 128MB + 2 x 32MB	320MB	O	X	O	X	O	O
2 x 128MB + 2 x 64MB	384MB	O	X	O	O	X	X
4 x 128MB	512MB	O	X	O	O	X	O
Key to settings: X = Installed, O = Open							

Table 2: AM-176 Memory Module Jumper (JP4) Settings

PERIPHERAL MOUNTING (DESKSIDE CHASSIS VERSIONS)

Your desktide computer cabinet can hold six half-height peripherals or three full-height 5.25" peripherals. Filler panels in the computer front panel can be removed to allow access to some of these peripherals. If you have six half-height peripherals, four of them can be accessed through the front panel; if you have three full-height peripherals, two of them can be accessed through the front panel.



3.5" diskette or hard disk drives mounted in 5.25" mounting brackets are also compatible with your computer.

The following figure shows all six peripheral mounting positions in the desktide chassis. For detailed instructions on configuring a particular device, see the installation instructions shipped with that device.

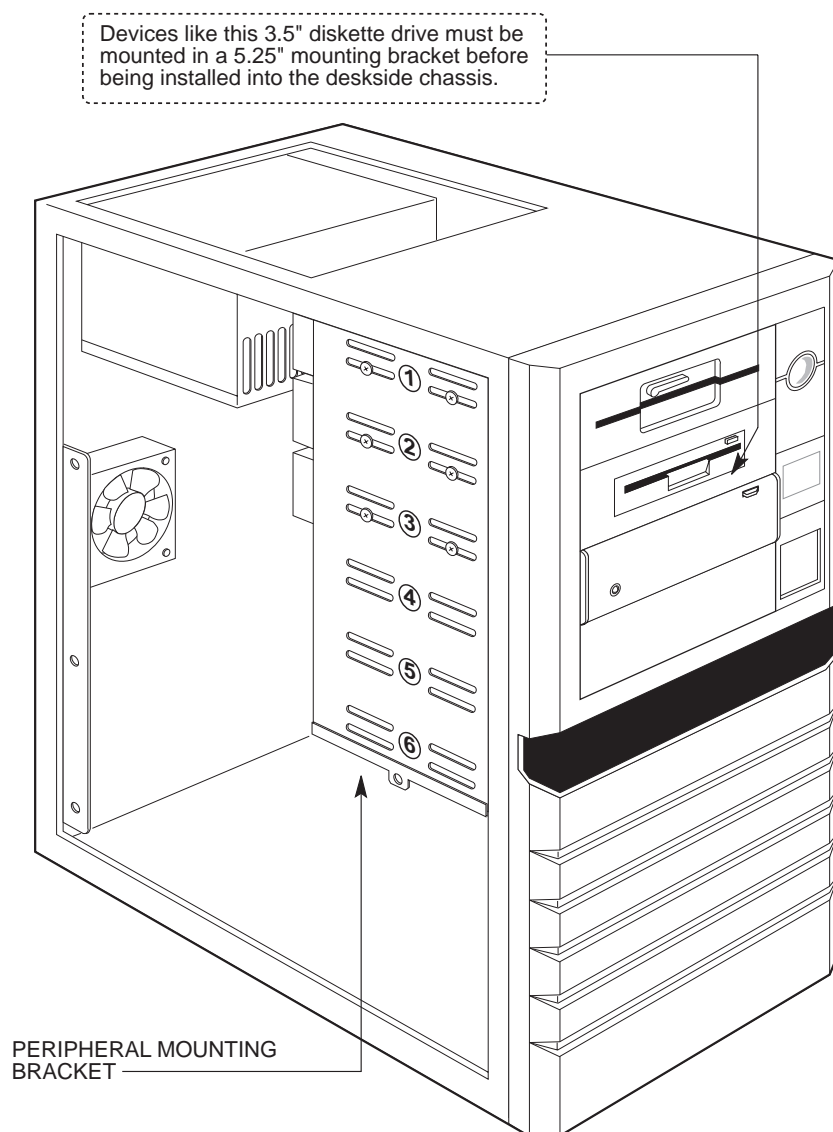


Figure 11: Desktide Chassis Peripheral Mounting Positions

A peripheral is installed in the drive mounting bracket using four Phillips-head screws. To install the peripheral mounting screws, you need access to both sides of the peripheral mounting bracket. On one side of the cabinet, all six of the mounting positions are easily accessible. However, on the other side of the cabinet, the AM-319-20 board and its mounting bracket block access to all but the top two mounting positions. To ease the installation process, Alpha Micro installs peripherals starting at the top position and working down. If your computer includes one disk drive and one tape drive, the two peripherals will be mounted in positions 1 and 2, which are easily accessible from both sides of the chassis.

To install peripherals in mounting positions 3, 4, 5, and 6, you will need to remove the AM-319-20 board and its mounting bracket from the chassis. At first glance, this might seem difficult, but if you follow the procedure outlined below, it will make the task much easier.

1. Remove the three Phillips head screws where indicated in Figure 12. The three screws hold the AM-319-20 I/O mounting bracket to the chassis rear panel.
2. Remove the threaded hex nut, as shown in Figure 12, to provide enough clearance to lift the AM-319-20 board up and out of the chassis bottom pan.

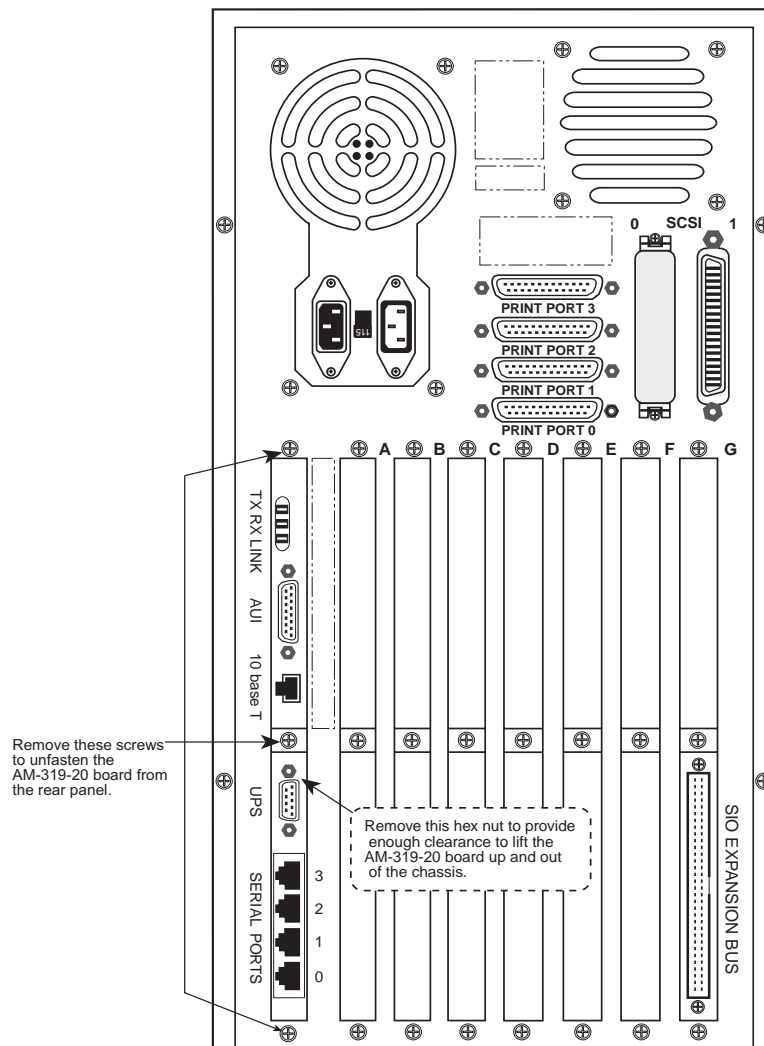


Figure 12: Deskside Chassis Rear Panel Screw Locations

Side Mounting Bracket Removal

Next, you need to unfasten the AM-319-20 side mounting bracket from the deskside chassis. To do so:

1. Remove the two Phillips head screws that secure the AM-319-20's side mounting bracket to the chassis. Before you slide out the board and its mounting bracket, notice how the mounting bracket is positioned over the two alignment tabs on the bottom of the chassis. When you reinstall the assembly, you must make sure the mounting bracket is properly positioned over both tabs; if it's not, it will be impossible to reinstall the two screws that hold the assembly in place.

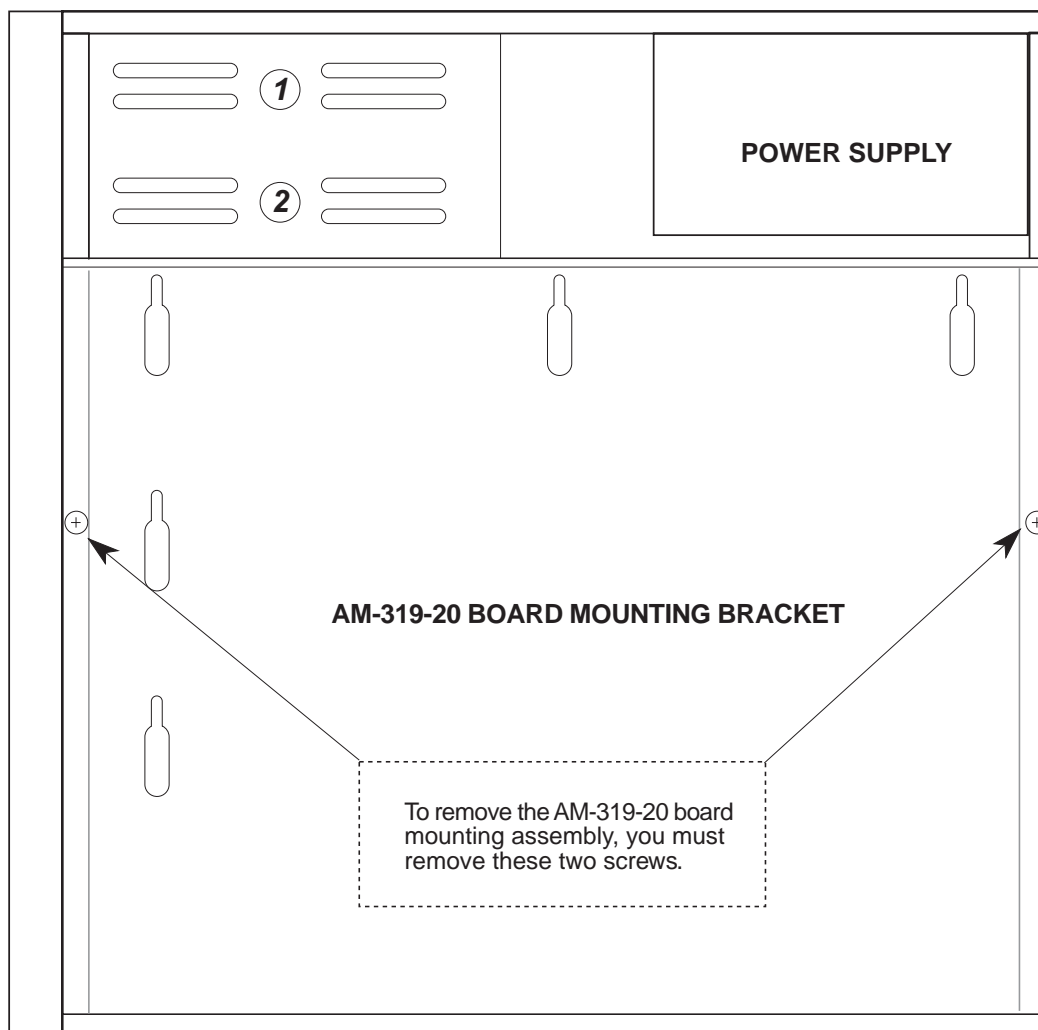


Figure 13: Deskside Chassis - AM-319-20 Mounting Bracket Removal

2. To remove the AM-319-20 and its mounting bracket, you need to lift the bracket high enough to clear the bottom lip on the chassis. Once you clear the bottom lip, pull the entire assembly out just far enough to disconnect the two DC power connectors that extend between the power supply and the AM-319-20.

3. There are a ribbon cable and a number of small wires extending between the front panel and the display connector on the AM-319-20. **Do not disconnect any of these wires**; the wires are long enough to allow you to lay down the AM-319-20 assembly on your work surface without having to disconnect them.
4. With the AM-319-20 assembly out of the way, you will be able to access both sides of the peripheral mounting bracket and have complete access to all six mounting positions.
5. To install a peripheral, simply slide it into one of the available mounting positions in your chassis and install the four screws (two on each side) that hold the device in place.
6. Don't forget to attach the appropriate power and interface cables to your new peripheral.
7. After you have completed your peripheral installation, you can reinstall the AM-319-20 assembly.



The AM-319-20 side mounting bracket is an integral part of the chassis assembly. You may find that with the bracket removed, the chassis may shift slightly, either forward or backward. To reinstall the AM-319-20 mounting assembly, you can realign the chassis by placing one hand on the top of the chassis and applying pressure either forward or backward. With the chassis properly aligned, the board and its mounting assembly will slide into place.

X-Bus Cable Routing

When unfastening the AM-319-20 side mounting bracket, you should be able to lay the board assembly down flat on the side of the chassis and out of the way without disconnecting the X-Bus cables. However, if an X-Bus cable should come unplugged from either the AM-176 or the AM-319-20 board it is extremely important that the cables are plugged back in correctly. If the cables are not correct the system will not boot or run self test and **one or both boards could be seriously damaged!**

The X-bus cables must be connected as follows:

- C/S bus cable into P6 on the AM-176 board and P8 on the AM-319-20 board
- A/D bus cable into P4 on the AM-176 board and P7 on the AM-319-20 board

PERIPHERAL MOUNTING (AM-990 AND JUMBO CHASSIS VERSIONS)

Mounting peripheral devices in your computer is simply a matter of attaching plastic rails to the side of the peripheral and sliding the device into its mounting position. The AM-990 chassis has mounting locations for 12 half-height (or six full-height) 5.25" peripherals. The front door on the AM-990 chassis has a cutout which allows access to peripheral devices using removable media. This cutout will accommodate up to four 5.25" half-height peripherals.

Figure 14 shows the peripheral mounting area for your computer with the slots numbered 1 through 12.

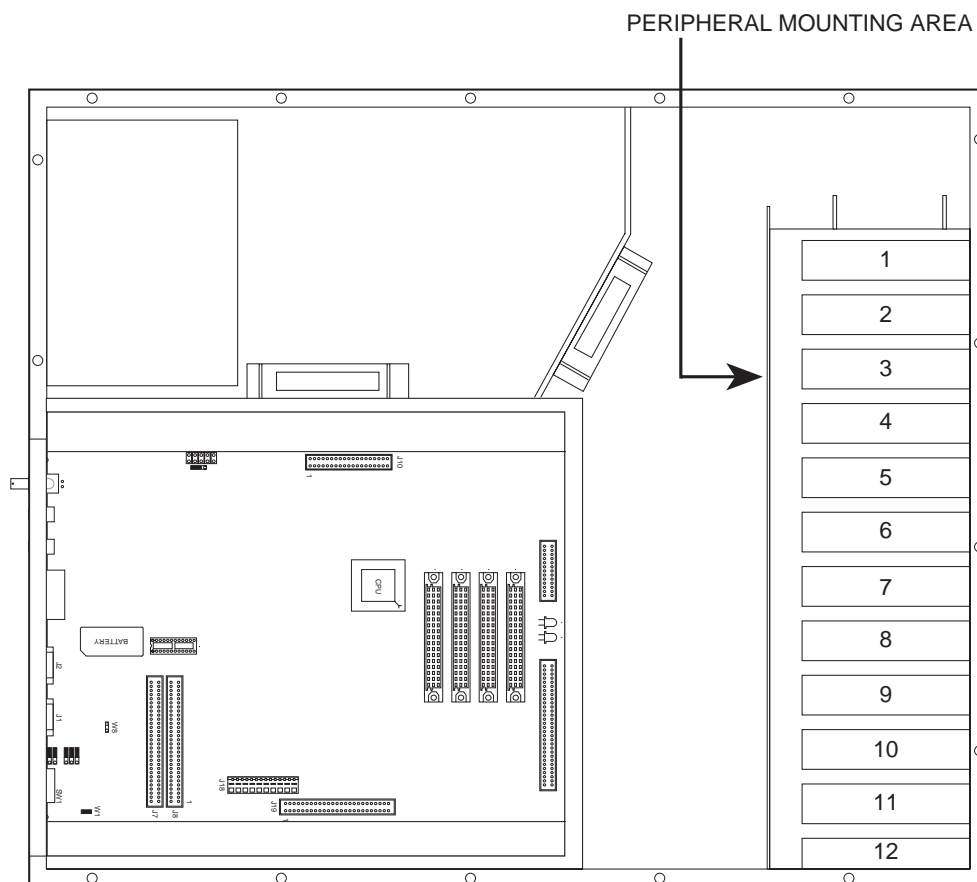


Figure 14: AM-990 Peripheral Mounting Area

Slots 3, 4, 5, and 6 are used for installing peripherals that will be accessed through the opening in the computer door. This includes devices that use removable media, like diskette drives and magnetic tape drives.

The first hard disk drive is mounted in slot 12, or slots 11 and 12 if it is a full-height device. A second hard disk drive would be mounted in the next available slot above the first disk drive. The hard disk drives are mounted in the lower part of the chassis for two reasons: to make sure the weight in the chassis is properly distributed and to provide easy access for both power and interface cables.

Plastic Mounting Rails

The plastic mounting rails are the key to installing peripheral devices in your computer. Two rails are required to mount a peripheral device. The rails (DWF-20652-00) are universal; they can be mounted on either the right or left hand side of the peripheral. Figure 15 explains how the rails are installed on various types of peripherals:

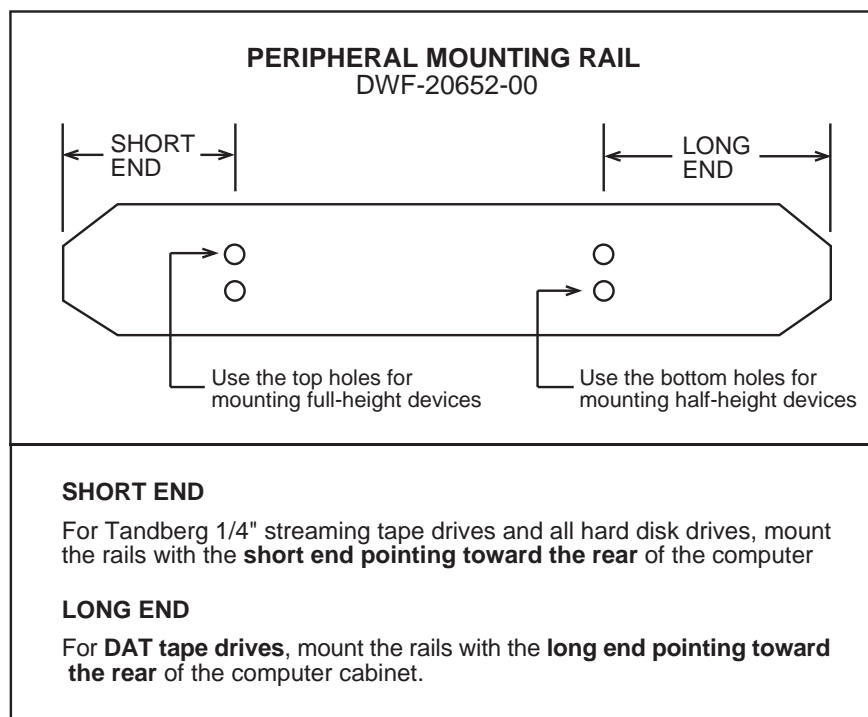


Figure 15: AM-990 Peripheral Mounting Rail

Besides the rails, the peripheral mounting kit includes both standard and metric screws for compatibility with all of Alpha Micro's 5.25" peripherals.

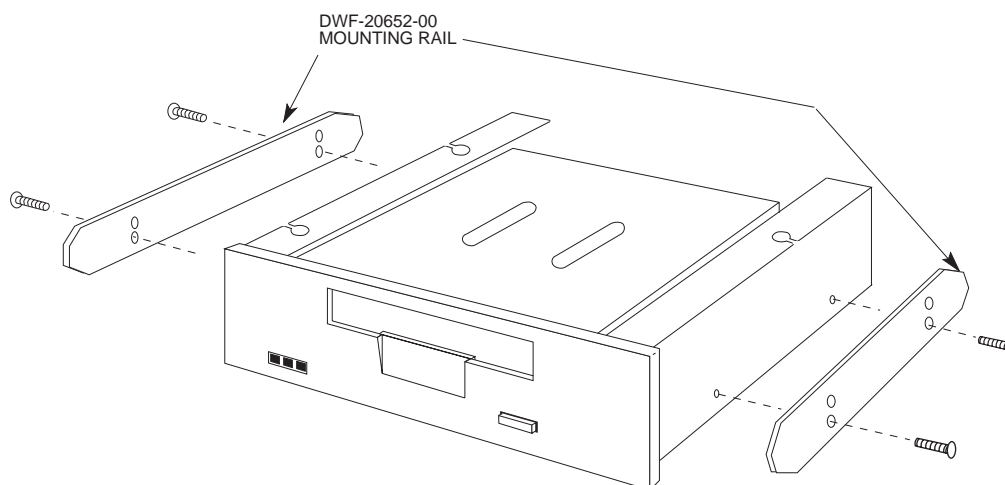


Figure 16: AM-990 Attaching Mounting Rails to Peripheral

X-Bus Cable Routing

You do not need to move either the AM-176 or the AM-319-20 board to mount new peripherals, which means you won't need to disconnect the X-Bus cables. However, if an X-Bus cable should come unplugged from either the AM-176 or the AM-319-20 board it is extremely important that the cables are plugged back in correctly. If the cables are not correct the system will not boot or run self test and **one or both boards could be seriously damaged!**

The X-bus cables must be connected as follows:

- C/S bus cable into P6 on the AM-176 board and P8 on the AM-319-20 board
- A/D bus cable into P4 on the AM-176 board and P7 on the AM-319-20 board

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

Each peripheral device sold by Alpha Micro is covered by its own set of installation instructions. The installation instructions include information on jumper settings, termination, and cabling. Before installing a peripheral, make sure you read the documentation pertaining to the device.

If the documentation was not included with your peripheral device, it is probably contained on the AlphaCD which is distributed to all Alpha Micro Value Added Resellers on a quarterly basis.